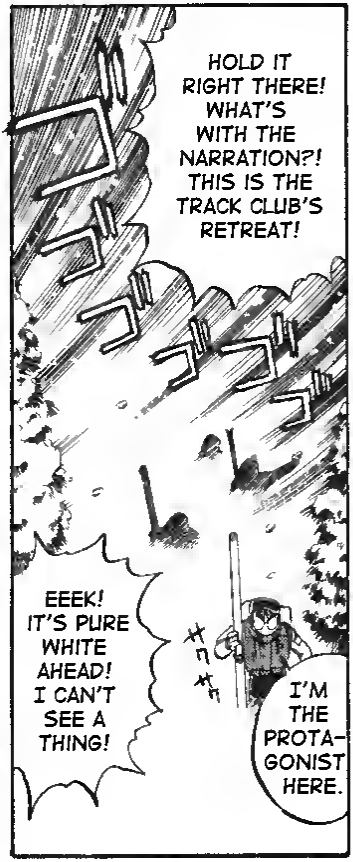
THE COLD WINDS OF CONDEMNATION HAD BECOME TOO MUCH TO BEAR, AND I SOUGHT OUT REST AND RELAXATION. I HAVE ARRIVED AT JAPAN'S CHOMOLUNGMA, NEAR TO THE HOLY MOUNT FUJI: THE TENREI RANGE.

DON'T LET GO OF MY HAND! OR YOU'LL DISAPPEAR!
THERE IS A LOT OF SNOW, THOUGH.
NOW, NOW. MY HOME-TOWN'S A NICE PLACE.

LET'S SKI! I WANNA GO SKI RIGHT NOW!
HEY, ARE WE THERE YET?

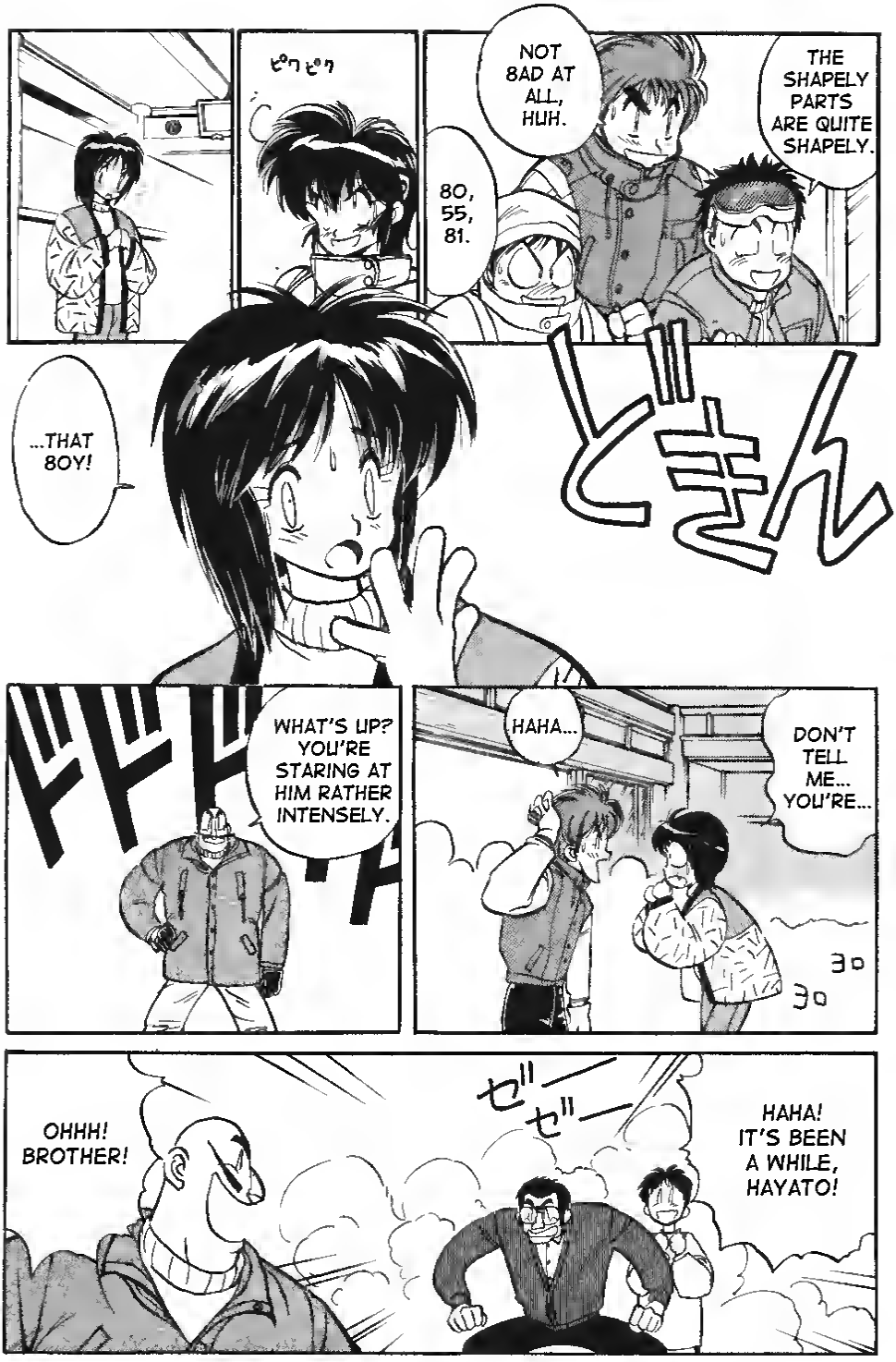
GODOH, DO YOU UNDER-STAND THE SITUATION YOU'RE IN?
WHO CARES ABOUT TRACK PRACTICE.


HOLD IT RIGHT THERE! WHAT'S WITH THE NARRATION?! THIS IS THE TRACK CLUB'S RETREAT!
EEEK! IT'S PURE WHITE AHEAD! I CAN'T SEE A THING!
I'M THE PROTA-GONIST HERE.

WE CAME ALONG BECAUSE OF THAT.
A CLUB TRIP TO A SKI LODGE! I'M BURNING WITH EXCITE-MENT!
ちきき
WHAT'S THAT? YOU SHOULD BE THANKFUL FOR THE SNOW!
WHAAAAAAAT?!
GAHAHA! OF COURSE NOT!
IS THERE REALLY A PLACE TO SKI OUT HERE?
tmnsky
WE'RE GONNA TRAIN LIKE MAD AT MY BROTHER'S INN! IT'S GONNA BE GREAT!
GAHAHAHA! YOU WOULDN'T HAVE COME IF YOU'D KNOWN, RIGHT?!
ほっほっほ
POOR THINGS, NOBODY WILL FIND YOU UNTIL SPRING.
AHH... SO YOU'RE TURNING YOUR BACKS ON ME.
THIS IS STUPID! LET'S GO HOME!
ボーン

RRRRUMMBLLL
WHY THE LONG FACES? THERE'S PLENTY TO EAT! AND YOU'LL BE PLENTY TIRED OUT TO ENJOY THE HOT SPRINGS.
天鈴温泉
がははは
LIAR!
BUT WHO WOULD'VE EXPECTED HOT SPRINGS SO DEEP IN THE MOUNTAINS?
ALSO, MY NIECE IS QUITE A FETCHING YOUNG LADY.
LIAR!
雪旅館
雪狼館
HALLOOO! WE'RE HERE!
HO HO HO!

OHH!
AH!
HEYO!
UNCLE HAYATO!
HOW'VE YOU BEEN, KANA?
GREAT!
YOU SEE THAT?
SURE DO...
YOU'VE FILLED OUT SOME SINCE I SAW YOU LAST, HUH?
GEEZ! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!


ピッピッ
NOT BAD AT ALL, HUH.
80, 55, 81.
THE SHAPELY PARTS ARE QUITE SHAPELY.
どきん
...THAT BOY!
WHAT'S UP? YOU'RE STARING AT HIM RATHER INTENSELY.
HAHA...
DON'T TELL ME... YOU'RE...
OHHH! BROTHER!
セーーセーー
HAHA! IT'S BEEN A WHILE, HAYATO!

EEEEEEK!
HELLO, I'M GODOH. I LOVE TO SKI.
HEY KIDS! WHERE ARE YOUR MANNERS?
GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT. NOT MUCH TO LOOK AT, BUT MAKE YOURSELVES AT HOME.
DID I DO SOME-THING?
UMMM... I GUESS I SHOULD ASK.
AGAIN, HUH.
AHHH! THE RED-HEADED BOY.
MOMMY, DADDY, HE'S...

Can I touch your hair?
ARE YOU MIXED?! YOU'RE SO CUTE!
OH, AHAHA! IT'S JUST UNUSUAL TO SEE A REDHEAD!
WE HAVE AN OPEN-AIR BATH TOO.
WELL, YOU MUST ALL BE FREEZING, SO COME IN.
AH, IT'S SUNNY OUT, GODOH.

HM?
じーん
YO...SHIDA? THAT'S ME?
SAY, YOSHIDA. WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT KANA?
WHAT'S BURNING?
しゅぅぅ
I DON'T CARE ABOUT SKIING ANYMORE! *KANA* IS NOW THE SUBJECT OF MY BURNING EXCITEMENT!
I THOUGHT I WAS NEVER GOING TO GET A NAME AS A MINOR CHARACTER.
YOSHIDA, YOU SHOULD VALUE YOUR LIFE MORE.
HAHAHA. YOU KNOW, THIS GUY...
PLUS, THEY LANDED RIGHT NEXT TO UNCLE'S SCHOOL, DIDN'T THEY?
I HEARD ABOUT THE MYSTERIOUS METEORITE IMPACTS IN TOKYO. HOW TERRIBLE.

YOU HAVE A FESTIVAL HERE, IN THE DEAD OF WINTER?
YES. THE MUSICIANS HAVE STARTED REHEARSING.
ぴーひゃら どんでん
IT'S LORD ASUTA'S FESTIVAL.
I'M EXCITED! IT'S A FESTIVAL THAT ONLY HAPPENS ONCE EVERY THOUSAND YEARS.
しゃなと
THEN WE CAME AT THE RIGHT TIME! HOW LUCKY!
JUST AS FORETOLD... THE STARS FELL....

SEEYA LATER, GODOH.
DID... DID YOU SAY SOMETHING?
WHAT ARE YOU BOYS DOING?
UNFOR-GIVEABLE!
GODOH, YOU BASTARD! SHE CALLED YOU BY NAME!
HEY, DON'T BLAME ME!
ギャーン
WE'RE GOING TO THE BATH.
UM... ER...
WHAT ABOUT YOU GIRLS?

ARE YOU SAYING THAT WE'D PEEK?!
WHAT ARE YOU IMPLYING?!
AH! AND JUST SO YOU KNOW, THE MEN'S BATH IS SEPARATE.
FOOLS! THIS SORT OF ENTERTAINMENT IS A MAN'S PRIVILEGE!
WELL SAID!
WHAT A BUNCH OF NASTY WOMEN!
わはははは
JUST YOU WAIT, SHIIHARA! I'M COMING STRAIGHT AWAY!
AND WHEN SEEN, *THEY* BECOME MORE BEAUTIFUL! THAT'S A WOMAN'S PRIVILEGE!

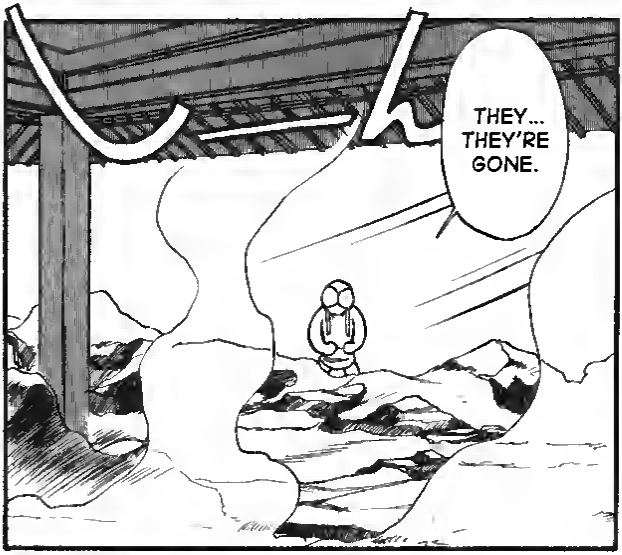
HAHA. HAYATO'S ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT.
HMM. ALL HE'S DONE SINCE GETTING IN IS SLEEP.
ガーっ
YES DEAR.
キリ
WELL, THAT'S FINE. THE GROUPS IN THE VILLAGE HAVE STARTED THEIR PREPA-RATIONS.
DAMMIT! I'M SO JEALOUS OF THAT RED-HEADED KID!
DEAR! WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!
ドカバキ
ガビーン
29
DEFINITELY NOT! AS A PARENT, I CAN SAY WE RAISED HER WELL. TWO MORE DAYS.
WE WON'T LOSE TO THOSE SCOUNDRELS IN THE NEXT VILLAGE OVER.
WE HAVE KANA.

THE OPEN-AIR BATH IS SURROUNDED BY SNOW.
OH, IT'S SO COLD OUT!
splash
BUT IT HAS A WONDERFUL ELEGANCE, DOESN'T IT?
INDEED.
IN CONTRAST... I WONDER WHEN TOKYO WILL BE REBUILT.
OH, THAT'S RIGHT. MR. IKAZUCHI'S BROTHER MENTIONED SOMETHING.

ONE... FELL HERE?
DURING THE INCIDENT, A METEORITE FELL ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAINS.
THERE'S NO WAY THIS IS A COINCI-DENCE.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, YOSHI-KAWA?!
ISN'T IT A RO-MANTIC STORY?
GODOH'S THE CAUSE. I'M SURE OF IT.
WHO'S INTO THAT DEVIL-POSSESSED CREEP?!
PISH-POSH. A GIRL'S MIND IS ALWAYS FOCUSED ON THE BOY SHE LIKES.

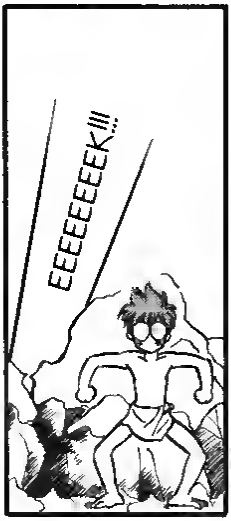
I THOUGHT THE BOYS WOULD COME TO PEEK AT US.
IT'S EVERY BOY'S DREAM...
Yoshi-kawa, you
BUT IT'S STRANGE.
WHAT IS?
てゆーか
goose-bumps
WHY'S THE MEN'S BATH HAVE TO BE TWO HUNDRED METERS AWAY?!
WE'RE GONNA FREEZE BUCK NAKED!
here
IDIOT! IT'S TOO LATE TO TURN AROUND!
GODOH! WHAT THE HELL ARE WE DOING?! IT'S FREEZING!

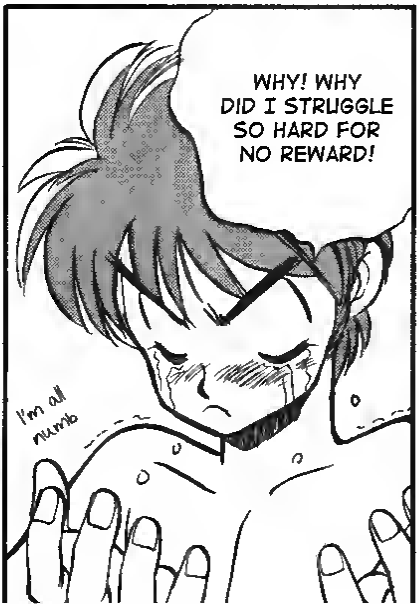
WHAT A BUNCH OF WEAKLINGS.
I... I LEAVE THE REST TO YOU!
WE'RE GONNA GET FROST-BITE!
ガイ
ガイ
うき
カキ
カキ


THEY... THEY'RE GONE.

UGH... THAT TOOK A LOT OF TIME.
IT'LL BE DEVASTATING IF THEY'VE ALREADY LEFT THE BATH.

THAT SCREAM ?!


EEEEEEEK!!!


WHY! WHY DID I STRUGGLE SO HARD FOR NO REWARD!
I'm all numb

あっ
AH!
HOLD IT ROIGHT THAR!
crik
GODOH-KUN!
KA... KANA-CHAN.
IFFAT GOILY LIVES, OUR VILLAGE IZ A GONER!
TSK! WE DONE SCREWED UP!

YAAAAA!
LOOKIT! THE RED-HEADED LAD!
THEN... WE'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO KILL'UM RIGHT HERE!
WHAT ARE YOU BASTARDS TRYING TO DO?!
KNUCKLE-HEADS! YOU CALL THOSE WEAPONS?!
WAH! YOU'RE TOTALLY NAKED!
NOO! GODOH-KUN!

HUH?
GEH!
HAHAHA! THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE!
YOU OKAY, JUJI?!
how embarassing
GRAMPS! GOAT!
QUICK!
TSK! MAKE A RUN FOR IT!

BUT WHY ARE THEY AFTER KANA?
I JUST CAME TO HAVE SOME FUN.
OH YOU SEE, IT JUST HAPPENS THAT MY FOUNDATION WORKS WITH A LABORATORY THAT STUDIES MOUNT FUJI'S FORESTS.
HMM. THOSE ARE SOME CONVENIENT REASONS TO BE HERE.
THE FESTIVAL IS APPROACHING, SO EMOTIONS ARE RUNNING HIGH.
RELATIONS WITH THE NEXT VILLAGE HAVE BEEN BAD FOR SOME TIME NOW.
EAT UP!
IT'S TIME FOR FOOD! LET'S EAT!
YEAH!
BUT NOW'S NOT THE TIME FOR SUCH TALK!
blisters

どぞーん
HUHHH?! I CAN'T EAT THAT MUCH!
HERE, GODOH!
THANKS?
THIS IS THE ONLY WAY I CAN SHOW MY THANKS...
WHOA, SCARY!
ALL RIGHT, I'LL EAT IT!
DO YOU DISLIKE ME, GODOH?
SEEMS LIKE THE FESTIVAL STARTS TONIGHT!
fight
ファイおっ
fight
ファイおっ
IT'S FINALLY NEW YEAR'S EVE, HUH.

...
...
Right?
SOUNDS LIKE FUN!
WELL, I DIDN'T HEAR THE DETAILS.
?
WAHOO! WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN?
TSK, SHE COULD SAY SOMETHING IN RESPONSE.
コソ
フッ
コソ
YAY, FESTIVAL!
わし
わし
WHAT?!
MR. IKAZUCHI! GODOH'S GONE!
いやる
EE-YAA
EE-YAA
EE-YAA

いやあ いやあ
EE-YAA
EE-YAA
あすたあ
ASUTAA
...THIS SINGING...
あすたあ
ASUTAA
くふあやく
KUFU-AYAKU
ぶるぐとむ
BURU-GUTOMU

SO YOU'VE COME TO, HUH?
WHOA! I'M BUCK NAKED!
WH... WHERE THE HECK AM I?!
YOU'RE... IKAZUCHI'S BROTHER?!
ON THIS BLESSED DAY, I SHALL HUMBLY SHOW MR. GODOH THE MEANING OF PLEASURE.
FATHER... NO... REVEREND FATHER.
HEYY! DON'T GET LOST IN YOUR OWN WORLD! EXPLAIN THIS!
TRULY, I AM A MAN BLESSED WITH GREAT FORTUNE! FOR I SHALL BEHOLD LORD ASUTA'S ARRIVAL!

THERE IS A LEGEND FROM THE DISTANT PAST.
WHEN THE STARS, MESSENGERS OF THE GODS, FALL FROM THE SKY, A RED-HEADED YOUTH WILL APPEAR.
A SHRINE MAIDEN SHALL ENTER INTO RELATIONS WITH THE YOUTH, AND SUMMON THE ANCIENT GOD.
RELA-TIONS?! YOU MEAN ...?!
AND THEN THE DEPRAVITY AND CORRUPTION OF THE WORLD SHALL BE PURIFIED!
THIS STONE IS LORD ASUTA'S SERVANT. THE EGG OF BAIYAKUHEI.
あすた様
Lord Asuta!
あすた様
AUGH, NOT THIS AGAIN.

THIS IS A TRADITIONAL CEREMONY, AS WRITTEN DOWN IN AN ANONYMOUS RITUAL BOOK!
HOW RUDE!
STOP ITTTT! WHAT'S WITH THIS KAGAMI MOCHI-SHAPED PLATFORM, THE SHINTO ROPE SEAL, AND THE SKETCHY HISTORICAL RESEARCH?!
GYAAAAH!
NOW, GODOH! ON TOP OF THIS MOCHI, LET US CONNECT AND BE AS ONE!
WHAT THE HECK?!
EVERY LAST SON OF A GUN IS POPPING UP WITH SOME CONVENIENT PROPHECY!
HIGH PRIEST! THE... THE SCOUNDRELS FROM THE NEXT VILLAGE!
WHAT?!

はははは
hahahaha
GIVE IT UP, IKAZUCHI!
UH-OH! IT'S THE FOSSIL EMPIRE!
FATHER!
FROM THE BEGINNING, THE FUJI REGION HAS BELONGED TO OUR CLAN...
THEREFORE WE SHALL BE THE ONES TO GREET THE SEALED GOD.
HOHOHO! LOSERS WEEPERS, YOU DIRTY OLD MAN!
ゆなゆな
SCALLYWAGS! YOU'RE INFRINGING ON THE COPYRIGHT OF MY ANCIENT DOCUMENTS!

PARASITES! JOHNNY-COME-LATELIES!
GET 'EM!
父の魂
HEY GODOH, YOU OKAY?
UH, I WAS ALWAYS NAPPING DURING THE TOWN MEETINGS.
I HAD NO IDEA THEY WERE INTO THIS HERETICAL SHINTO STUFF.
WOW... THIS IS AMAZING.
I'M GLAD YOU'RE SAFE.
WERE YOU WORRIED?
AH, IKAZUCHI! WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON?!

WE'VE GOT TO STOP THE FIGHT-ING!
EEK!
ゾギャ
IF YOU WEREN'T ALIVE, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO WHACK YOU!
I'LL BLOW THIS WHOLE CAVE TO SMITHEREENS!
キュウーン
BUT THIS IS A VOLCANIC AREA.
IF YOU WANT THAT ROCK SO BAD, I'LL SPLIT IT IN TWO FOR YA!
HOW DARE YOU MAKE SUCH A FOOL OF ME!
WHAAAT?!

MEANIE! AND WE TREATED YOU WITH SUCH CARE!
YOU'RE GONNA BE CURSED FOR THIS, KID!
ハミン
AH!

LET'S GIT ON HOME.
WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT ANOTHER THOUSAND YEARS FOR THE GODS...
oh my
A... LOTTERY?
RED! THE BALL IS RED!
UGH! WHAT A SCAM!
TELL US ABOUT IT.
WHAT A LETDOWN, HUH, GUYS?
WE WERE SAVED BY A GOVERNMENT FACILITY CALLED S.C.E.B.A.I., THAT WAS SUBMERGED IN THE LAVA...
AH... BUT IT WAS TOO LATE. THE BLAST CAUSED THE ENTIRE FUJI AREA TO ERUPT...

THANKS SATOSHI CHIBA!!